

Bay 4-

Bx 943/2

1951

S.E. ASIA

EASTERN

BRUNEI

No. 59726

SUBJECT

SULTAN OF BRUNEI

PENGIRAN OMAR ALI SAIFUDIN

CLOSED
UNTIL
1982

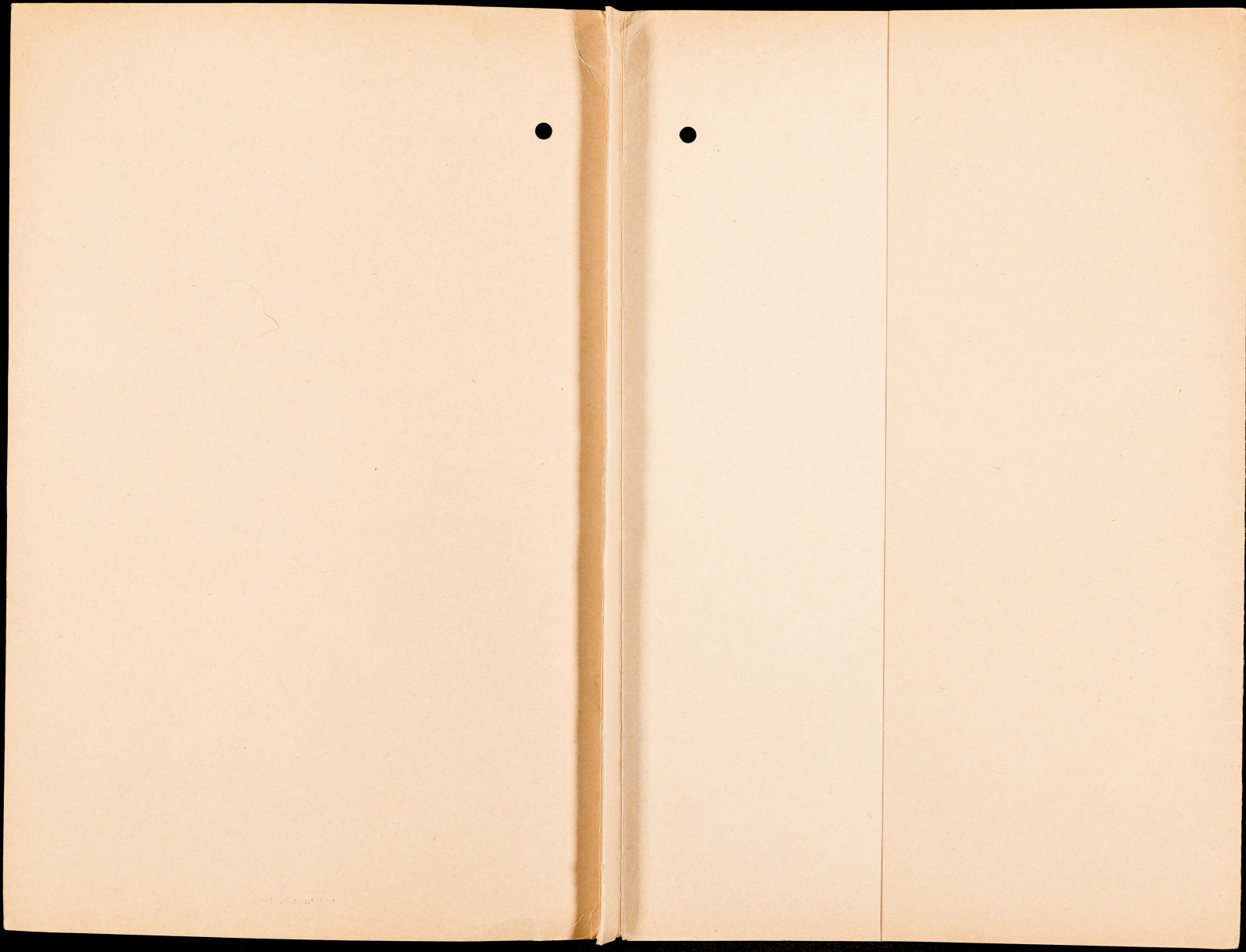
Previous

59726/1950

Subsequent

see SEA/B.3

C0943/2/13



1. BRUNEI . SAV 48. 17. 5. 51

Put by

Hild

20/5/51.

B

2 PAMPHLET - SULTAN'S CORONATION

3. REUTER REPORT 31. 5. 51

Put by J. S. S.

B

4. ~~8~~ PRESS CUTTINGS — 1. 6. 51

B

5. EXTRACT FROM STRAITS TIMES. 31. 5. 51

B

6. SARAWAK 3.P.N — 19. 6. 51

Put by

Hild

2/7/51 atome

B

7

E. PRETTY —

29. 8. 51

8

E. PRETTY —

31. 8. 51

B

9 REUTER REPORT. — 4. 9. 51

Put by.
J. H. Barker
7/9

10 J.H. BARKER FT BRO 192/51 - 29.8.51

wood.

I spoke to C.A. (Dept. E.M.3), who told me that they frequently buy cars for Colonial Govts. & would probably be able to help in this case, although the subsequent resale may present difficulties.

I attach a draft letter to Mr. A.S. Millward, the Head of the E.M.3. Dept.

J. H. Barker
14/9

~~Do not see~~
MR. Sand. Pl. note that liaison with the British Council over this matter is being dealt with by MR. Webster on Inf. file 97502/15/46, on which MR. Webster & I have minuted & for which I have supplied a copy of our letter at (8).

G.C. Whitely

14/9.

22/10/11 A.S. Millward Crown Agents w/copy (10) 21.9.51

4

12 Com. Gm Singapore SAR 161 24.9.51

Mr. Perkins 4/x
Mr. Higham 5/x
Sir G. Whiteley on return } to see 12.

A. S. Millward
4/10.

~~(112) gives some reassurance after (9)!~~

(112) gives some reassurance after (9)!

Mr. Saur

by phone

Perhaps you cd. ask Mr
Millward if he can say if we
any inf. in reply to (11)?

G.E.W.

10/10.

13. L. Marsden (C.A.) 9.10.51

I spoke to Mr. C.R. Wood of the Ministry of
Supply (Genam 6933 Ext. 1021), and understand
that in the special circumstances they would be
prepared to allocate an exhort quota can for the
use of the Sultan without orders for exhort. He
suggested that we should write to them, giving
details of the make and model required, and
they will then authorize the manufacturers to
allocate a can from their exhort quota.

I attach 2 drafts.

A. S. Millward
18/10

29/11 14

Barcroft - Brunei w/ leaflet —

5

22 OCT 1951

15

Manson - Brown Agents —

22 OCT 1951

18

Sir G. Whitely.

Ref. Mr. Webster's minute on
§ 97502/15/46 below, I attach a draft to
Mr. Barcroft sending copies of the
correspondence with the British Council.

A. Lane
24/11

Yes;
we shd. also let the pr. into the secret.

G.C.W.
24/11

16 Do Barcroft - Brunei - w/c (34) on file
97502/15/46 w/encs ————— 29.11.51

17 Do Brunei - Desp 35 L/F w/c (14) (16) encs
29.11.51

For subsequent action re Sultan's visit to U.K., see
SEA/B.3.

18

MR. Balsan^x called for inf. about
Brunei crest in connection with an order for
a tiara wh. the Sultan has placed with the
firm recently. I lent him one of the
enclos. to (b) wh. he will return - G.C.W. 16/6/53.

^x of T N Balsan
88 Hatten Gardens
E.C.1.

6

59726/51

616
COLONIAL OFFICE,
The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
London, S.W.1.

copy on 9752/15/46
c/o Brunei
J 17
29 November, 1951

My dear Barcroft

Further to my letter of the 22nd October, I now enclose copies of correspondence we have received from the British Council, who have discussed the forthcoming visit of the Sultan with Pretty, and have made suggestions for a limited programme they would be prepared to arrange.

You will no doubt wish to discuss these proposals with the Sultan, and I hope that you will then be able to let us have full details of the visit so that we can go ahead with any necessary arrangements at this end in good time.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) G. C. WHITELEY.

c/o Brunei
J 17

J.C.H. BARCROFT, ESQ.,
BRITISH RESIDENT,
BRUNEI.

59726/51

7

16

C. O.

Mr. Lane 23/11

Mr. Sir G. Whiteley 24/11

Mr.

Mr.

Mr.

Permt U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State

C. D.
R. 26 NOV
B. 26

29 NOV 1951

Your Reference.....

For Sir G. Whiteley's signature

DRAFT

J. C. H. Barnett, Esq.
British Resident,
Brunei.

Further to my letter of
(14) the 22nd October, I now enclose
copies of correspondence we have received
from the British Council, who have
discussed the forthcoming visit of
the Sultan with Petry, and have
made suggestions for a limited
programme they would be prepared
to arrange.

Copy of 34 on 97502/15/46
with enclosures.

FURTHER ACTION

~~Copy to be registered on
97502/15/46.~~

~~Copy with copy of
enclosure~~

~~2 Copy of (14) High
to L. F. to Governor
Commissioner Brunei
Sarawak~~

Rec'd to Mr
Saul.

You will no doubt wish to
discuss these proposals with the
Sultan, and I hope that you will
then be able to let us have

full

full details of the visit ~~and of any~~
~~programme that~~ so that we can go
ahead with any necessary arrangements
of at this end in good time.

Yours sincerely -

59726/51

EM.860/34

The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
S.W.1.

12 October, 1951.

Dear Marson

Thank you for your letter of the 9th October about the purchase of a car for the Sultan of Brunei. I have spoken to the Ministry of Supply, and understand that they would be prepared to allocate an export quota car for the use of the Sultan if the matter were put to them in detail.

I am therefore writing to the British Resident in Brunei to find out exactly what he wants done in the matter, and will let you know as soon as I get his reply.

Yours sincerely,

Sydney J. Lane.

L. Marson, Esq.

59726/51

10

C. O.

Mr. *June 18/10*Mr. *G. Whiteley 18/10*Mr. *JS*

Mr.

Mr.

Permt U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State

Your Reference

EM. 860/34

for MR Swin's signature

22 OCT 1951

DRAFT

*L. Mason, Esq.
C.A. for the Cols.,
4, Millbank,
S.W.1.*

Thank you for your letter
(13) of the 9th October about the purchase of
a car for the Sultan of Brunei. I
have spoken to the Ministry of Supply,
and understand that they would be
prepared to allocate an export quota
car for the use of the Sultan if
the matter were put to them in detail.

I am ~~character~~ writing to the British
Resident in Brunei asking ~~for~~ to find
out exactly what he wants done in the
matter, and will let you know as
soon as I get his reply.

FURTHER ACTION

Yours sincerely.

59726/51.

c to Brunei
17

COLONIAL OFFICE,
The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
London, S.W.1.

Dear Bancroft.

22 October, 1951.

In your letter of the 29th August you asked whether it would be possible to obtain priority of delivery of a car for the use of the Sultan of Brunei during his visit to this country next year. I have made enquiries, and understand that in the special circumstances the Ministry of Supply would be willing to allocate an export quota car to His Highness, but before they can do this we will have to let them have full details of the model required. They will then arrange for the allocation of a car direct with the makers, and the actual purchase can be made through the Crown Agents.

I enclose a leaflet giving details of the Austin A.125 Sheerline Limousine, which would seem to meet your requirements. Austin's would be able to deliver such a car within three to four weeks of receiving a firm order, and would be prepared to take it back and endeavour to arrange for its disposal on behalf of the Sultan. Perhaps you will let me know as soon as possible whether this car would be suitable, or let me have full details of any other model the Sultan may prefer, so that I can take the matter up in detail with the Ministry of Supply.

Alternatively, Rootes could supply a 1949 Pullman Limousine which they have recently taken in part exchange for a new car supplied to the Paris Embassy. They say that they could easily arrange for the existing left-hand drive to be changed to right, and consider that in the present state of the second hand market

/it

J. C. H. Bancroft, Esq.
British Resident,
Brunei.

it should be possible to re-sell the car at the end of the Sultan's visit without incurring any great loss.

We have not yet received official notification of the Sultan's visit, and as we have already had some enquiries from the British Council and as time is getting on it would be helpful if we could have an official communication with the fullest possible details of programme, date and length of visit, class of accommodation required, size of party, etc., at an early date. I have had some talk about these matters with Pretty, and we feel that accommodation at the Selsdon Park Hotel, a sort of country club Hotel some 20 miles to the South of London, might be suitable. I should warn you however that this would be expensive. I have no details of charges but they might well be as much as 3-5 guineas a night or more. You will of course find prices in general very high, and this is a point which you will no doubt bear in mind when making financial provision for the visit.

Yours sincerely,

Synd: J. L. Whiteley

C. O.

Mr. *June 18/10.*Mr. *Sir G. Whiteley. 18/10*Mr. *18/10*Mr. *18/10*Mr. *18/10*

Permt U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State

Your Reference.....

22 OCT 1951

*2 drafts.***DRAFT**

*J. C. H. Barcroft, Esq.,
British Resident,
Brunei.*

Austin befallen behind (13)

In your letter of the

- (10) *29th August you asked whether it would be possible to obtain priority of delivery of a car for the use of the Sultan of Brunei during his visit to this country next year. I have made enquiries, and understand that in the special circumstances the Ministry of Supply would be willing to allocate an export quota car to His Highness, but before they can do this we will have to let them have full details of the model required. They will then arrange for the allocation of a car direct with the makers, and the actual purchase can be made through*

FURTHER ACTION

the

the brown legs.

I enclose a leaflet giving details of the Austin A.125 Sheerline Limousine, which would seem to ~~be the~~ meet your requirements. Austin would be able to deliver such a car within three to four weeks of receiving a firm order, and would be prepared to take it back and endeavour to arrange for its disposal on behalf of the Sultan. Perhaps you will let me know ~~whether~~ as soon as possible whether this car would be suitable, or let me have full details of any other model the Sultan may prefer, so that I can take the matter up in detail with the Minister of Supply.

Alternatively, Rootes could supply a 1949 Pullman Limousine which they have recently taken in part exchange for a new car supplied to the Paris Embassy. They say that they could easily arrange for the existing left hand drive to be changed to right, and consider that in the present state of the second hand market it should be

possible

C. O.

Mr.....
Mr.....	Permt U.S. of S.
Mr.....	Parly. U.S. S.
Mr.....	Minister of State
Mr.....	Secretary of State

Your Reference.....

DRAFT

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We have not yet received official notification of the Sultan's visit, and as we have ^{already} had some

enquiries from the British Council + as time is getting on it would be helpful if ~~we could arrange~~ ^{we could} ~~could~~ have an official communication ~~on this~~ with ~~let us have~~ the fullest possible details ^{of programming, length of trip, through the usual channels, visit, class of accommodation etc. at an early date.} I have discussed

a sort of country club hotel some 20 miles to the S. of London might be suitable. I shd want you however that

FURTHER ACTION

had some talk about these matters ~~the visit with Prety, and we feel that~~ ~~arrangements are perhaps being made~~ accommodation could probably best be arranged ^{at} in the Selkirk Park Hotel

~~in Kensington~~ This would be ^{expensive} I have no details of charges but they might well be as much as ³⁻⁵ £ pounds ~~in the region of 8-10 guineas a~~ ^{a week.} ~~night,~~ ^{of course,} but you will find prices in

General

very high, and this is a point which you
will ^{no doubt bear} ~~have to be~~ ~~home~~ in mind when

making financial provision for the
visit. ~~It wd. be helped also if there were some~~

Yours sincerely

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.
THE FOLLOWING REFERENCE AND THE
DATE OF THIS LETTER BEING QUOTED.



13 17

EM. 860/34.

4, MILLBANK,
LONDON, S.W.1.

TELEGRAMS: { INLAND: "CROWN, SOWEST, LONDON."
OVERSEAS: "CROWN, LONDON."
TELEPHONE: ABBEY 7730.

9th October, 1951.

Dear Mr. Saul,

(1) I have to refer to your letter No.59726/51 of the 21st of September, in which you requested our assistance in the purchase of a car for the use of the Sultan of Brunei during his visit.

--- I am enclosing herewith a copy of Austin's letter reference RWA/ET dated the 2nd October, and also Roote's letter of the 3rd of October, in original, in connection with the possibility of obtaining a car for the use of His Excellency the Sultan during his visit.

As you are aware we are only able to order vehicles for export, but, in the case in question, it may be possible to obtain permission from the Ministry to allocate an export quota car for the use of His Excellency, and, as stated by the Austin Motor Export Corporation Limited, they would be prepared to take the car back and arrange disposal of it for him.

Perhaps you will be good enough to consider these two letters and let me have your further instructions in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "L. Hardy".

The Colonial Office,
Church House,
Gt. Smith Street,
London, S.W.1.

LM/IS
LM/IS

GROSVENOR 3401 (18 LINES).
ROOTESMOTI, TELEX, LONDON.
CABLES ROOTESMOTI, LONDON.

EM/860/34.

18
DEVONSHIRE HOUSE,

PICCADILLY,

LONDON, W. I.

3rd October, 1951.

Dear Mr. Marson,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 25th September concerning the provision of a car for His Highness the Sultan of Brunei during his forthcoming tour of this country.

I note that His Highness will be in England for the best part of five months and will be requiring the use of a Limousine for that period.

I am afraid that it would not be possible to place a Pullman Limousine at his disposal or even hire him one for a nominal sum as you will appreciate that this would put one of our best hire cars out of the hire market for five months which would be a very considerable sacrifice to make and one to which I am afraid we cannot agree.

We are anxious, however, to place our best services at His Highness's disposal and would place the following suggestion before you for your consideration:-

We have lately supplied the Paris Embassy with a new Pullman and have taken their 1949 Pullman in in part exchange. We can easily arrange to have this car re-imported into this country and the existing left-hand drive changed to right.

In the present state of the second-hand market, I think that if His Highness purchased this car from us and sold it for the best possible offer on his departure, he should not be very greatly out of pocket.

/ Perhaps...

: 2 :

Perhaps you would care to give this your consideration and let me know if it is of interest to you - if it is, I will have some tentative figures produced and passed to you.

Yours sincerely,

Dean Turnbull

Colonel G.S. Courtney. *Secy.*

L. Marson, Esq.,
Crown Agents for the Colonies,
4 Millbank,
LONDON. S.W.1.

Dictated by Colonel Courtney
but signed in his absence to
avoid delay.

duplicate

end (B) 1 (13)

20

Chairman: L. P. Lord
Deputy Chairman: A. C. R. Waite
Managing Director: J. F. Bramley
Directors:
G. W. Harriman, J. Gibson Jarvie
A. C. Herring, A. O. Tookey
K. R. Hougham

The Austin

MOTOR EXPORT CORPORATION LIMITED
(Incorporated in The Austin Motor Company Ltd.)
LONGBRIDGE, BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND
Cable Address: Speedily, Birmingham, England
Telephone: Priory 2101

Your Ref: EMO/860/34

Our Ref: RWA/ET

Date: 2nd.
October,
1951

Subject:

The Crown Agents for the Colonies,
4, Millbank,
LONDON. S.W. 1

Dear Sirs,

We write to acknowledge your letter of the 25th ultimo dealing with the visit of the Sultan of Brunei to this country.

This matter has been placed before our Executives and has been given serious consideration. We are sorry, however, that we cannot help by loaning a Car to this gentleman whilst in this country as we keep no Cars for such purposes and to do so would mean that after His Highness had finished with the Car we would have a second-hand model on our hands.

Our alternative seems to be that permission be obtained from the Ministry for ourselves to supply a Car against our Export quota when export delivery could be given; this would mean practically immediate delivery or at the very longest, within 3/4 weeks after receipt of firm order. After the Sultan had finished with the Car as he is not desirous of returning it to his country we could, no doubt dispose of it for him.

We would have liked to have complied with your suggestion but feel sure that you will appreciate that in such matters we are largely guided by existing regulations and company policy.

Yours faithfully,
AUSTIN MOTOR EXPORT CORPORATION LTD

R.W. AMMONDS

COLONIAL OUTWARD

COMMISSIONER GENERAL IN SOUTH EAST ASIA,
SINGAPORE.

THIS DOCUMENT IS CONFIDENTIAL AND MUST NOT BE GIVEN WIDER DISTRIBUTION
THAN THAT INDICATED BELOW WITHOUT PRIOR REFERENCE TO THIS OFFICE.

G.T.C.

FROM SINGAPORE TO GOVERNOR SARAWAK.

Mr. Malcolm MacDonald.

Tel. No. 245

Dated: 24th September, 1951.

DESPATCHED: 241950 GH.

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Governor Sarawak telegram No. 245 of 24th September.
Repeated for information to: Governor North Borneo. No. 200.
British Resident Brunei. No. 36.
and Saving to: Colonial Office. No. 161.

I saw the Sultan of Brunei yesterday morning on the airfield before he took off for Brunei. In the course of conversation I raised with him the question of his alleged interview concerning Labuan and Limbang. I said that the newspaper report came as a complete surprise to us in Singapore, and that I felt sure it must be a misreport. I told him that in answer to questions at the time I had indeed answered that the report must be wholly wrong, for His Highness had never raised any such question with me, the High Commissioner or the Resident, and that I felt sure that he would not (repeat not) say things to a newspaper man which he had never said to us. I added that the "Straits Times" had, however, told an enquirer from my Office categorically that the statements as reported had been made by His Highness.

2. The Sultan denied completely that he had made any such statement, and was clearly extremely annoyed at the report. He told me in front of the Penghiran Bendahara and his Private Secretary, both of whom were listening to our conversation, that they had been present at the time of the interview, and that they were witnesses to the fact that he said nothing.

3. The Private Secretary then joined in our conversation and expressed great regret at what had happened. He confirmed that the Sultan had said nothing whatever about Labuan or Limbang. He added, however, that he himself had made some remarks on the subject to the newspaper reporter. The reporter had shown him an article written by someone in Miri which claimed that Brunei was a tiny country incapable of independence and that it ought to be incorporated in Sarawak. The reporter had asked him for his views on this. In reply he had discoursed on Brunei affairs and "stated the facts" about the claim which Brunei could lay to Labuan and Limbang.

4. I said that this was most regrettable, for the newspaper had given a large headline and much publicity to the alleged interview with the Sultan. The Governors of Sarawak and North Borneo had found it

/necessary



necessary in these circumstances to make public statements denying that Brunci had made any claim to either territory.

5. The Sultan was clearly apologetic about the whole thing, and the Private Secretary was embarrassed. I said that I trusted that we could now regard the incident as closed. I think it likely that we shall hear no more about any Brunci claims, at any rate for some time to come, though I cannot be sure of this. It depends what the Private Secretary's motive was in raising the matter in the first place.

COMMISSIONER GENERAL

H.E.

Filo.

Log.

Copy to:- R.I.O.

MB.

23/1

The Church House,
Great Smith Street, S.W.1.

59726/51

21st September, 1951

ans by (3)

I would be most obliged for your advice on the enclosed copy of a letter I have received from J.C.H. Barcroft, the British Resident in Brunei. In particular, I should like to know whether the Crown Agents would be able to undertake the purchase and subsequent resale of a car, either new or secondhand, for the use of the Sultan during his visit, and whether you consider there is any prospect of obtaining priority of delivery of a new car of the type required without ordering for export.

Perhaps you will be good enough to let me have a note on the general position, and of any further information you would require to enable you to go ahead with purchase arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

*sd. J. H. Saul
for Sir G. Whiteley*

A.S. Millward, Esq.

59726/51

24

C. O.

Mr. *Saul 14/9*Sir *G. Whiteley 14/9*

Mr.

Mr.

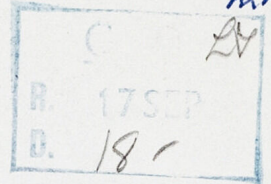
Mr.

Permt U.S. of S.

Parly. U.S. S.

Minister of State

Secretary of State



Your Reference.....

DRAFT

A.S. Millward, Esq.,
 Crown Agents for the
 Colonies,
 4, Millbank,
 S.W.1.

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 for your advice on the enclosed
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 British Resident in Brunei. In
 particular, I should like to know
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 either new or secondhand, for the
 use of the Sultan during his visit,
 and whether you consider there is
 any prospect of obtaining priority

FURTHER ACTION

of

of delivery of a new car of
the type required without ordering
for exhibit.

Perhaps you will be good enough
to let me have a note on the
general position, and of any further
information you would require to
enable you to go ahead with
purchase arrangements.

Yours sincerely



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
KUCHING,
SARAWAK.

6
26

19th June 1951.

With the compliments of His Excellency
the Governor and Commander-in-Chief
Sarawak.

1. Speeches made at the Coronation of His Highness
the Sultan of Brunei, 31st May 1951.
2. Rumi translation of the above speeches.
3. Jawi translation of the above speeches.

Henric Petros.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"RESIDENT BRUNEI"

10 27
Office of the British Resident,

Ref: (13) in B.R.O. 192/51.

Brunei, 29th August, 1951.

Dear Sir Gerald,

The Sultan of Brunei will be visiting Europe next year and will be staying in England for the best part of five months.

His Highness will require a limousine capable of carrying six passengers at his disposal for the entire period of his stay and I am writing to enquire whether His Majesty's Government would be willing and able to assist by giving His Highness a priority for the delivery of a car.

As the Sultan would have no use for a larger limousine in Brunei and as this type of car has no ready market in Singapore, I am reluctant to order for export.

I have enquired about hiring a car but the rates quoted have all been prohibitive.

Another alternative would be to buy a modern low mileage second hand car but the purchase and resale present difficulties not easily overcome from this distance.

I shall be most grateful for any assistance that you are able to give in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

J. B. A. S. K.

Sir Gerald C. Whiteley K.C.M.G.
Colonial Office,
The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
London. S.W.1.

~~Mr. H. J. Haver~~

MR Sank

LAND

4531

28

SINGAPORE SEPT 4 REUTER - THE SULTAN OF BRUNEI SAID
HERE TODAY THE STATE OF LIMBANG IN SARAWAK, AND LABUAN ISLAND
OFF NORTH BORNEO, SHOULD BE RETURNED TO HIS SULTANATE.

HE MADE THE STATEMENT TO THE BRITISH-OWNED STRAITS TIMES BEFORE LEAVING BY AIR ON A PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA.

OFFICIAL CIRCLES HERE TONIGHT SAID THEY WERE NOT AWARE THE SULTAN HAD MADE REPRESENTATIONS ALONG THESE LINES TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

BRUNEI IS A BRITISH PROTECTED INDEPENDENT SOVEREIGN STATE. WHILE LABUAN IS PART OF THE NORTH BORNEO COLONY. LIMBANG IS ADMINISTERED BY THE COLONY OF SARAWAK

MORE...2033

THE SULTAN, WHO WAS CROWNED RECENTLY AS THE 28TH RULER OF BRUNEI, SAID LABUAN WAS CEDED TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN 1846 TO SUPPRESS PIRACY. BRUNEI AT THAT TIME WAS FINANCIALLY POOR, ADMINISTRATIVELY INEFFICIENT AND MILITARILY WEAK, HE ADDED.

UNDER BRITISH PROTECTION LABUAN HAD BECOME FINANCIALLY SOUND AND PEACEFUL, THEREFORE HE COULD SEE NO REASON WHY LABUAN SHOULD NOT BE RETURNED TO THE SULTANATE OF BRUNEI.

THE SULTAN SAID BRUNEI ALSO HAD A CLAIM FOR LIMBANG WHICH WAS PART OF BRUNEI BEFORE IT WAS OCCUPIED BY THE FORMER RAJAH OF SARAWAK WITHOUT THE SULTAN'S CONSENT.

LIMBANG IS A STRIP OF GOOD RICE GROWING LAND WHICH GIVES SARAWAK ACCESS TO SEA THROUGH BRUNEI.

REUTER...2035

The Church House,
Great Smith Street,
London, S.W.1.

31st August, 1951.

29

Dear Pretty,

Thanks for your letter of the 29th August announcing your return to the U.K. May I bid you welcome and offer my good wishes for a happy retirement?

Your letter arrived opportunely as the British Council people have been wishing to get in touch with you. I gather that Goatley, their Sarawak representative who is now on leave, has told them that the Sultan of Brunei proposes to visit the U.K. next year; that a suggestion has been made that the British Council should be asked to arrange a round Britain tour for his edification and entertainment, as part of his programme, and that you are the authority who will tell them what the Sultan would like to do and see.

We have heard nothing officially so far, but I expect something will be coming along shortly. In the meantime I understand that Mr. C.J. Ritchie (British Council, 65 Davies Street, W.1.) who is in charge of their Visitors' Department and to whom I have ventured to give your address will be writing to ask if you will call on him if you are in London, say, early in October.

I shall of course be delighted to see you when you are in London, and to have a yarn about Brunei and its affairs. At the moment there is nothing of special importance that I need worry you about.

Friend MacBryan is back in London and after a shortish

/ spell

E.E.F. Pretty, Esq., C.M.G.

spell in retreat is now established in a flat in Curzon Street. Beyond calling at the office on one occasion when nobody was available to see him (!) and writing a letter to the Times about oil royalties in Brunei and Sarawak, he has, touch wood, so far been quiescent.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

(G. WHITELEY)

7
31
CHERRY TREES,
1, CHERRY WALK,
HIGH SALVINGTON,
SUSSEX.

SWANDEAN 677.

29th Aug. 1951.

Dear Whitley

This is just a line to let you know that I have returned to the U.K. from Bremen & am living down here for the next few months at any rate.

If ever you want to see me please don't hesitate to let me know & I will try to get to London after the children have returned to school. I hope Master MacBryen has not

32
been causing you or Sarawak any
further trouble! What a pest the
man is.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely

Eric E. J. Putterly



SPEECHES MADE AT THE
CORONATION OF HIS HIGHNESS
THE SULTAN OF BRUNEI
31ST MAY, 1951.

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Speech by His Excellency the Right Honourable Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, P.C., Commissioner-General for United Kingdom Affairs in South-East Asia.

We are the privileged witnesses this morning of a Coronation ceremony as colourful in pageantry, beautiful in artistry and hallowed in history as any that is now celebrated in any land under the sun. Its details have become formalised and crystallised and encrusted by centuries-old tradition, yet it was performed to-day as spontaneously and freshly as on any similar occasion in the last thousand years.

Brunei is an ancient and honourable State. The line of its Sultans stretches back unbroken for countless generations, to a time when the mists of unrecorded history shroud and conceal the hills round Brunei Bay. During all those centuries its Sultans have been crowned, to a wailing of flutes and the beat of royal drums, in their capital beside the serene waters of Darul Salam.

To-day we have seen the 28th known Sultan of Brunei crowned, and heard him most regally proclaimed. I am no historian, but I say with confidence that in all the long procession of his predecessors no ruler ascended the throne more richly clothed already not only in the allegiance but also in the affections of his subjects.

We here all know His Highness. We have seen him in a happy family circle with his gracious Consort and their charming children. We have watched him too dealing with matters of State. If I may say so, we know his modesty and dignity, his sympathy and understanding, his sincerity and wisdom, his respect for his fellowmen and his reverence for God.

Brunei is fortunate in having a number of experienced and sagacious men amongst its high Officers and Councillors of State. Pre-eminent amongst them in the latter years of the late Sultan's reign was the then Duli Pengiran Bendahara, who now sits on the throne.

If the occupant of this throne were selected, not by the ancient laws of heredity but by the popular choice of all his people, the same young statesman would occupy it as we see gracing it this morning. That is one reason why to-day's ceremony was no mere empty echo of something which has been repeated over and over again in the past, but a fresh, spontaneous, enthusiastic and joyous acclamation, a heartfelt dedication of a new Sovereign to his people and of a people to their Sovereign.

This happy event delights not only Brunei's own citizens, but also all Brunei's friends round the world. Nowhere it is hailed more gladly than in Great Britain, the Protecting Power, whose relations with Brunei have been close and cordial for more than a hundred years—but never closer or more cordial than they are to-day. In the name of His Majesty King George and of the Government and people of Britain, I greet His Highness, and salute his virtues, and congratulate him on his Coronation, and wish him well. And I utter fervently for him the words of the prayer which we in Britain speak for our own beloved Sovereign. May God

“Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign.”

Long live the Sultan!

35

Coronation Speech of His Highness the Sultan.

YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Your presence here to-day fills me with great pleasure and gratification and I am deeply touched by the kind speeches to which we have just listened from the three representatives of His Majesty the King. Their attendance at this ceremony is not only a great honour to me personally but also a further indication of the close ties of friendship which have for so long existed between Brunei and her neighbours in Malaya, Sarawak and North Borneo.

On behalf of my wife and myself I wish to express my public thanks for the many messages of congratulation which we have received and for the numerous and handsome gifts which have been sent to me and which I hope you will be able to see for yourselves at the Istana to-night.

To-day when I assume the full sovereignty of this State I am deeply conscious of the heavy responsibilities which I have to shoulder, especially in these troublous times, but I trust that with God's guidance and under the benign protection of His Majesty's Government, Brunei will continue to advance and achieve still greater prosperity.

While it is true that much has been done, despite considerable difficulties, during the past six years since the Japanese occupation, it is also true that much still remains to be done, especially in the fields of health, agriculture and above all education. Without assistance from outside it will be quite impossible for Brunei to progress in these fields and I therefore most earnestly request that when it is asked for such assistance will be readily forthcoming.

This is for me a very happy day and I rejoice to see so many of my good friends both from within and without the State present here to join in the celebrations.

I trust that you will all enjoy yourselves and that it will not be long before we all meet again in equally happy circumstances.

In conclusion I wish to express my deep gratitude for the honour which His Majesty the King has conferred upon me by appointing me to an Honorary Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George. I would once more affirm my unswerving loyalty to His Majesty and to the British Throne and voice a hope that Brunei will always remain a staunch member of the great Commonwealth of Nations over which His Majesty reigns.



UCHAPAN2 DI-BUAT MASA
PERTABALAN SERI PADUKA DULI YANG
MAHA MULIA SULTAN BRUNEI
PADA 31 MAY, 1951.

Uchapan oleh Tuan Yang Terutama, Rt. Hon. Malcolm MacDonald, Pesuruh-jaya Agong bagi Hal-ehwal United Kingdom di-Tanggara Asia.

Pada pagi ini ada-lah kita penyaksi2 yang beruntung dalam isti'adat Pertabalan yang elok gubahan-nya dan murni sejarah-nya sa-tara dengan yang di-ra'eikan masa ini di-dalam mana2 negeri di-bawah matahari. Suasana2nya pertabalan ini telah di-resmi, dan di-tokoh serta di-balut oleh adat yang telah ber-abad2 itu, tetapi pada hari ini, ada-lah nya itu telah di-lansong dengan bersendirian dan giat baharu seperti mana2 termasha demikian jua dalam masa sa-ribu tahun yang telah lalu tadi.

Ada pun Brunei itu ia-lah sa-buah negeri yang tua dan mulia. Maka susunan Sultan2nya ada-lah tidak ber-putus2 dalam keturunan yang tidak tepermena'i itu dari zaman purbakala kutika kabus sejarah yang belum terchipta yang telah menyelubong dan melindungi bukit2 di-sakeliling Telok Brunei. Di-sa-panjang masa yang ber-abad2 tadi Sultan2nya telah di-tabalkan di-ibu negeri-nya yang di-tepi sungai Darus-salam yang tenang dengan bunyi-bunyian gendang nobat di-raja.

Pada hari ini kita telah saksiakan Sultan Brunei yang kedua puluh delapan yang di-ketahu'i tertabal serta mendengarkan-nya di-istihar dengan kemuliaan-nya. Saya bukan-nya sa-orang ahli tawarikh tetapi saya berkata dengan yakin bahawa di-sapanjang barisan raja2 yang dahulu dari nya tadi tidak ada sa-orang pun yang naik takhta Brunei sedia di-selmut bukan sahaja oleh ta'at setia tetapi kaseh sayang yang ber-lebehan dari ra'ayat-nya.

Sakalian kita di-sini telah mengatahui'i Duli Yang Maha Mulia. Kita telah melihat-nya dalam satu kelamin yang ria dengan Permaisuri-nya yang lemah lembut dan putera2nya yang chomel itu. Kita telah memerhatikan-nya jua dalam mengatur hal ehwal negeri. Jikalau saya boleh sebutkan demikian, maka kita tahu akan sopan santun-nya, belas kasehan dan timbang rasa-nya, tulus ikhlas dan bijak-nya, dan kebaikan-nya terhadap kawan2nya serta ibadat-nya kepada Tohan.

Negeri Brunei itu ada-lah ber-tuah kerna mempunya'i beberapa orang2 yang ber-pengalaman dan bijaksana di-antara pegawai2 tinggi dan ahli2 mesuarat Negeri-nya. Yang ternama sakali di-antara mereka dalam tahun2 yang akhir pada perantahan Sultan yang mangkat tadi ia-lah Duli Pengiran Bendahara dahulu yang ber-semayam di-atas takhta sekarang ini.

Sakira-nya pun yang menduduk takhta itu di-pilih menurut pilihan sakalian ra'ayat-nya dan bukan dengan adat ganti turun temurun, maka menteri yang muda ini jua akan menduduki takhta itu seperti yang kita lihat menghiasi akan-nya pada pagi ini. Itu-lah suatu sebab maka isti'adat hari ini bukan-lah hanya gemaung kosong dari perkara yang telah di-ulang2 pada masa yang telah lalu tetapi suatu pengangkatan daut yang giat samula, ber-sendirian, gembira dan ria ia-itu suatu ikrar yang tulus dari sa-orang Raja yang baharu kepada ra'ayat-nya dan dari ra'ayat kapada raja.

Termasha yang ria ini bukan sahaja menyuka penduduk2 Brunei sendiri, tetapi jua sahabat2 Brunei di-saluruh dunia. Tidak ada tempat2 lain yang melangka-nya lebeh dari Great Britain ia-itu Kuasa Penaong-nya yang mempunya'i perikatan rapat dan ramah dengan Brunei lebeh sa-ratus tahun itu tetapi tidak-lah melebeh dari yang ada pada hari ini. Atas nama Seri Baginda King George dan Kerajaan serta ra'ayat di-Britain, saya bersembahkan kepada Duli Yang Maha Mulia dan jua hurmatkan kebaikan-nya, dan mengucapkan tahni'ah kapada nya masa Pertabalan ini dan berdo'a mudahan-lah ia-nya selamat. Dan saya keluarkan dengan gembira bagi-nya kalimah do'a yang kita dalam Britain untokkan bagi Baginda King kita sendiri yang di-kasehi itu. Mudahan-lah Tohan "Menangkan-nya,

Kekalkan-nya di-atas takhta
Dengan sentosa dan kemuliaan."
Mudahan-lah ber-lanjutan usia Sultan!

Uchapan Kapuspa'an Duli Yang Maha Mulia
Tuanku Sultan, 31.5.1951.

TUAN-TUAN YANG TERUTAMA, DAN PARA HADZIREN:

Maka pada hari ini kita berasa sangat kasuka'an dan kashukoran oleh kerna kahadziran tuan-tuan sekalian dan amatlah manarek hati kita mendengarkan ucapan-uchapan yang berherga yang bahru2 saja ini dilafadzkan oleh ketiga wakil-wakil dari pada Sri Paduka Duli Yang Mahamulia lagi Mahabesar Baginda King. Kahadziran belian-belian itu di-Isti'adat ini bukan-nya sahaja dijulangkan tinggi kamulia'an kapada diri kita sendiri, bahkan adalah jua suatu tanda perhubungan rantai persaudara'an yang kharib dari semanjak beberapa tahun yang silam diantara Brunei dan jiran-jiran-nya di-Malaya, Sarawak serta Borneo Utara.

Bagi pehak Isteri kita dan jua diri kita sendiri, sukachita-lah kita menguchapkan dengan satinggi-tinggi terima kaseh saumom-nya terhadap kapada beberapa ucapan-uchapan tahni'ah yang kami telah terima dan juga diatas hadiah-hadiah persembahan yang banyak bilangan-nya serta dengan permai dan berherga pula. Kita berharap bahwa tuan-tuan sendiri akan dapat melihat hadiah2 itu di-Istana Darul Hana pada malam ini.

Pada hari ini apakala kita menarimai kuasa yang penoh bersemayam diatas takhta Kerajaan Negeri Brunei, adalah kita sedar dengan sapenoh-nya kaseh tanggungan tanggungan yang berat yang kita akan beban, istimewa pula dalam masa yang kasusahan ini, akan tetapi kita berdo'a bahwa dengan pertunjuk TOHAN YANG MAHA KUASA serta pula dibawah perlindungan Kerajaan Baginda King, Negeri Brunei ini akan terus maju dan memperolehi bertambah-tambah kejaya'an dan kama'muran.

Sunggoh pun banyak sudah perkara-perkara yang telah diperbuat di-samping berbagai-bagai kasusahan dan kasukuran dalam masa 6 tahun dari semanjak penyudah perantahan Jepun, bagitu juga ada banyak lagi perkara-perkara yang akan di-perbuat didalam hal ehwal Kasihatan, Tanam-tanaman dan di-antara semua-nya ialah Pelajaran. Jika tidak dengan pertolongan dari luar, haruslah negri ini tidak dapat memperolehi kamajuan dalam perkara-perkara ini. Dengan sebab itu saya minta dengan sasungoh-nya bahwa apabila dimaksudkan akan bantuan itu kelak, maka pertolongan sa'umpama itu akan mudah didapat ketika yang dikehendaki.

Hari ini ia-lah hari yang gilang gemilang dan berbahgia bagi kita, dan kita berasa sangat suka ria melihat banyak daripada sahabat2 kita yang ekrab, sama ada dari dalam negri mahu pun dari luar negri, menghadziri bersama2 meraikan termasha yang berperiistiwa ini.

Kita harap bahwa tuan-tuan sekalian barasa suka ria dan akan mendapati lagi termasha sachara ini dalam masa yang tidak berapa lama lagi.

Bagi penutup ucapan kita ini, sukachitalah kita dengan sabesar2 kenangan mengucapkan ribuan terima kaseh diatas lempah kornia Sri Paduka D.Y.M.M. lagi Mahabesar Baginda King George Yang Ka-Anam menggerahi kepada kita bintang mertabat C.M.G., serta kita ulangi sekali lagi mengku bersetia yang kukoh dan kekal kepada Sri Paduka D.Y.M.M. lagi Mahabesar Baginda King serta juga kepada Mahkota Di-Raja British dan berdo'a mudah2an negri Brunei ini akan kekal selama2nya menjadi ahli yang tegoh didalam lengkungan Negara-negara Jajahan Ta'alok yang di-perentahkan oleh Baginda King Yang Mahabesar.

The 28th Sultan is crowned today, oil gushes in Seria and— BRUNEI ENTERS HER GOLDEN AGE

From a Straits Times Special
Staff Correspondent

AS 36-year-old Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddin is crowned today with Oriental pageantry as Brunei's 28th Ruler, his little Malay State, the smallest in the great island of Borneo, is entering a new golden age.

The golden age is made possible by revenues from the largest oilfields in the British Commonwealth.

In the sixteenth century, Brunei was Borneo's mightiest State, reaching its zenith under Nakhoda Raga-m, "The Singing Captain," whose war fleets ranged to Java and Malacca and through the Philippines to a siege of Manila.

But through four centuries the Brunei empire dwindled away until it was reduced to a bare 22,000 square miles and a population of 50,000, about a third of whom lived in an almost unique water village built on piles on river mudflats about ten miles from the sea.

Rise to fortune

TODAY Brunei is still small in area and population, but oil has made it the richest State in Borneo.

When the first British Resident came to Brunei in 1906, the State revenue was \$51,000.

Quarter of a century ago, when the present British Resident, Mr. E. E. F. Pretty, did his first tour of duty here, the revenue was still only \$257,000.

Last year the State collected the record sum of \$17,000,000, of which more than \$13,000,000 came from mining rents and royalties paid by the British Malayan Petroleum Company's field at Seria, in Kuala Belait District.

At Seria the money, skill and efficiency of the huge Shell combine have created a great new industry, which employs 25,000 people, including 250 Europeans.

'Abode of Peace'

A MODEL town is taking shape, with modern amenities, including a mission school and a trade school, while the rates of pay and conditions of labour are the best in Borneo.

From the expanding production of Seria Brunei will reap even greater benefits this year. It is estimated that the total State revenue may be as high as \$45,000,000—more than \$1,000 per head of the population—the vast majority coming from mining royalties and income tax.

By the end of the year Brunei may well have a surplus balance of \$40,000,000. There is no public debt.

Crime is negligible, and there are no labour disputes. Today, Brunei truly merits the honorific name of its capital, Dar-ul-Salam—"Abode of Peace."

With its post-war wealth,



THE SULTAN OF BRUNEI, who will today be crowned Ruler of the ancient Borneo State. He is the 28th Sultan. Before he succeeded his brother last year he was the Duli Pengiran Bendahara, the Chief Minister. He was educated at the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar.

Brunei is slowly but surely laying the foundations of a modern progressive State in which health and education plans figure prominently, although some difficulty has been found in getting experienced technical officers from overseas.

Steady progress has been made in the reconstruction of Brunei town, which was laid almost flat by bombing towards the end of the war (although Kampong Ayer, the famous water village, was spared).

As the Sultan goes to his coronation today from his new \$400,000 astana, he will pass a new, well-equipped, million-dollar hospital with a hundred beds, for which it is hoped to train an adequate staff of Brunei nurses.

Royal litter

AT this point his Highness will step back into the picturesque past, for he will leave his car and mount a raily decorated wooden *menapan*, the Royal litter, with his principal Ministers, Duli Pengiran Bendahara and Duli Pengiran Pemancha.

The litter will be borne on the shoulders of twenty

strong men who come from a special group in Kampong Ayer across the river where 5,000 people still live.

To describe this village as "The Venice of the East," as some have done, is to over-glamourise, but, seen from the shoreline of the new town, it has at certain times of day a beauty of its own.

Home-lovers

IT is a remarkable collection of small villages, in which in some places ramshackle wooden houses are linked by rickety footways.

For its own people, however it holds a special charm. Amphibious almost from birth, skilled watermen who handle small and flimsy craft, they cannot be wooed away from their river homes by the offers of land and money which have been made by the Government.

They come across the river to work for the Government, to tap rubber, to cut bark for cutch, to fish, but most of them go back to Kampong Ayer at night. One of the pleasantest sights is small tiny boats across the river, gleaming in morning sunlight—bound for school.

a courtier in the inner palace.

But before the golden age of Brunei which Pignatelli saw, and before the coming of Islam, there had been Chinese and Indian influences at work in Brunei. Kubli Khan, the great Mongol conqueror, sent an expedition to Borneo in 1292 and it is more than probable that this is the origin of the Chinese community in North Borneo.

Brunei also once sent tribute to the great Hindu Empire of Majapahit. To this day some of the traditional ceremonies, royal processions and the names of some officers of state bear marks of ancient Chinese and Hindu influences and may be recognised in parts of today's coronation ceremony.

Worth proved

AS Sultan Omar Ali is borne in the Royal litter for a quarter of a mile to the new Lapau, the audience hall, he may recall the days of Brunei's ancient glory, for he is a close student of its history and adroit customs.

This short, well-built, handsome man, who was educated at the Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, is deeply sensible of *berpangsa*, the Brunei custom of rulership unknown in other Malay States. This ordains that the Brunei Ruler is not crowned at the beginning of his reign, but shall wait until he has demonstrated his abilities.

When this has been done, the people, through the two principal Ministers of State, approach him and request him to assume the title of Yang di-Pertuan.

Today's event

IT is as Yang di-Pertuan that will be crowned today by Duli Pengiran Bendahara the principal Minister, before the gathering in the new Lapau. The guests include the Commissioner-General, Sir Donald; the High Commissioner, for Brunei, Mr. Anthony Foster Abell (Governor of Sarawak); the Governor of North Borneo, Sir Ralph Hore; and the British Resident, Mr. E. E. F. Pretty, who has known Brunei for a quarter of a century, and who has attended the burial of two Sultans and the coronation of two and who will be present at a coronation which will mark a new era for the oldest Malay State under British protection.

Ancient crafts

BRUNEI has just built a fine modern Malay school in the town, but soon it is to take little schools, dispensaries and clinics to Kampong Ayer where young Brunei is learning the ancient crafts of silversmith and weaver from a small group of men and women who produce the finest gold-thread sarongs in the world. Beautiful silver and a few famous Brunei gongs are also still made.

Heading the procession of the Royal litter which the Kampong Ayer men will carry will be forty spearmen and forty umbrella-bearers wearing scarlet uniforms in a pageant of colour which will recall some of the magnificent influence of the sixteenth-century Brunei court, described by Pignatelli. Italian historians of Magellan's famous voyage round the world

Old splendour

HE told of elephants paraded in silk courtiers clad in gold embroidered cloth and wearing poligrads with golden hilts, ornamented with pearls and other precious stones. There were scribes who kept the royal records on "thin tree bark."

Pignatelli and his companions feasted from porcelaine bowls with golden spoons and learned of a mighty king who was served by women who were the daughters of chiefs. The monarch could not be addressed directly and his message of greeting from the King of Spain was conveyed through a speaking tube to

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT D. INF. 5/51/126 (EMERG)

Release Time:
0930 hours

POLICE ROUND-UP

POLICE DEPT. NOTE: The following are preliminary reports of incidents and as such are subject to confirmation:-

A bandit was killed and another wounded by a security forces' jungle squad in the Datu Gajah area of Perak on Sunday. The squad found an occupied bandit camp and opened fire, killing one Chinese bandit and wounding another.

A bandit was wounded on Sunday by security forces in the Kluang area of Johore.

A Special Constable No. 40206 Jamal bin Didy was wounded in the left arm and thigh during an exchange of fire between Police and an unknown number of bandits in the Tapah area of Perak on Sunday night. The Police kept up their fire until the bandits fled.

Six armed Chinese bandits waylaid a Tamil worker on Sunday in the Teluk Anson area of Perak and demanded money. The worker had no money and was robbed of his wristwatch.

KUALA LUMPUR,
15th May, 1961.

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Taxation would be the most effective method of practice it would be difficult to adopt in Malaya, Mr. D.P. Agnew, Director of the United Commercial Bank told Penang Rotarians today.

Describing the present income tax as "very high in this country," he urged that emphasis should be placed on increasing the incidence.

Mr. Sarin suggested that suitable measures should be taken to cover the expenditure and to raise the proceeds.

Present initiatives, he said, could not equip the country with increased flow of goods. To fill the government's present financial gap, a device taxation would be necessary.

Though price control and rationing may be not indicated at present, he said, the government must be vigilant particularly in respect of daily necessities," said Government's present policy seemed to recognise the dangers; far applied had not yet borne tangible results and further action was necessary, he said.

NEGLIGENT \$25

From Our Staff Correspondent, TAPING, Wed.—Pleading from a negligent driver, a police car driver, was fined \$25 by the Talipar Magistrate.

The fear of worms, he said, was widespread in the United Commercial Bank, Penang, Province Wellesley, Kedah and Perlis, where fishermen were suffering from the hardships unnecessarily.

To obtain expert opinion on these worms from the University of Malaya and a parasitologist at the University of Malaya and he said that the worms have no ill-effects," said Mr. Le Mare.

"The worms look unpleasant but they are not dangerous to fish for years you should continue to do so. The worms have always been there."

PLEADS GUILTY TO 3 CHARGES

From Our Staff Correspondent, TAPING, Wed.—Teh Boh Soon was charged before the session of an unlicensed still for the manufacture of intoxicating liquor, 40 gallons, two quart bottles of dutiable liquor.

After pleading guilty to all the three charges, sentence was postponed to June 4 ball of \$500 being allowed.

FIRE ALARM 'NOT ANSWERED'

At an MOOR STAR, Wed.—In a request on the death of a mother and her five children who died in a fire on Monday night, Choo Lay said he heard on the door of the woman's room and then tried to telephone the fire brigade, "but the fire brigade did not answer from the exchange."

He was testifying at an inquiry on Ho Siew Guan, Keng Hock and Lee Lee, Ho Siew Guan, he said, was to my sister-in-law but the flames had already reached the staircase.

The inquiry is proceeding.

MORE MANGOES FOR PENANG

From Our Staff Correspondent, PENANG, Wed.—Another consignment of 5000 baskets of Indian mangoes has arrived in Penang this week by the Jalang.

This excludes the 20,000 baskets of Indian mangoes fruit is selling at about 40 cents each.

and Brunel nobles and chiefs.

21-gun salute

After the reading of the coronation declaration, the playing of the national anthem and silver trumpets—will play, in an old Malay cannon will be fired in the afternoon. Brunel boatmen will compete in a regatta on the river. The ship's salute will follow in the new Astana tomorrow night.

See "Brunel Enters Her Golden Age," Page 5x.

Scholarship worries her

THE first University of Malaya woman graduate to be awarded a scholarship to America is worried.

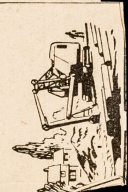
She is 23-year-old Miss Lam Lai Ching of Ipoh, who won a Science degree in chemistry.

Miss Lam, who has been awarded a one-year scholarship in America, said that she has been told to be at Byrn Maw College by September 15, but by the time she has written to ask whether I can postpone my trip until December, Miss Lam said, she will have to complete my work for my M.Sc."

Hospital for mothers one of the best

Adviser to the Colonial Government to Singapore's Kandang yesterday: "It is one of the best seen."

"It compares well with the best seen."



ED JUN 1951

NEW RULER OF BRUNEI

ORIENTAL SPLENDOUR OF CORONATION

From Our Own Correspondent

SINGAPORE, MAY 31

His Highness Omar Ali Saif-uddin was to-day crowned as the twenty-eighth ruler of Brunei. For the past two days his subjects had travelled by canoe or launch or along jungle tracks to pay homage to their sovereign in the capital of this little State on the north-west coast of Borneo. This morning, dressed in bright silks and cottons and richly woven sarongs, for which Brunei is famous throughout south-east Asia, they lined the route to the Lapau, the audience hall in which the coronation took place. The scene was one of oriental splendour, which Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, Commissioner-General for south-east Asia, described as beautiful in artistry and hallowed by history.

CROWN AND SWORD

The Sultan, a handsome man of 36, was carried in a yellow royal litter on the shoulders of 24 retainers. In front was the Chief Minister holding a naked sword, and by the Sultan's side the Second Minister, carrying the crown. A State umbrella of yellow silk with gold thread shielded his Highness from the sun. Leading the procession were two scarlet-clad retainers, one carrying an ancient brass blunderbuss and the other a long sword and large wooden shield with scarlet markings. They were followed by 40 royal spearmen, also dressed in scarlet, and 40 swordsmen in blue sarongs and bearing burnished brass shields.

At the Lapau the Sultan was greeted with a royal salute before mounting the throne. There stood high officers of State, and the Commissioner-General, the High Commissioner for Brunei, the Governor of North Borneo, and the Bishop of Borneo and Brunei. The ancient ceremonial began after the High Commissioner for Brunei, Mr. Anthony Foster Abell, had invested the Sultan with the honorary companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. Then Duli Penancha, the Second Minister, who was clad in black brocade silk, handed the crown to Duli Pengiran Bendahara, the Chief Minister, who placed it upon the Sultan's head as court officials cried "Sambah" (Do homage). The assembled nobles echoed the shout, drawing their swords, as the drums and silver trumpet of the royal band played.

READ SEVEN TIMES

The Sultan, who was dressed in cream and gold brocade and carried a kris known as the Senaga, sat motionless while the coronation proclamation was read seven times in accordance with Brunei custom. An aged chieftain stood before him with his sword pointed at his breast and the hilt towards the ruler, and behind the throne was the State regalia, including the hand and arm made of gold (Tongkat Ajar) and the golden image of a cat (Kuching Mas), which was once used as a royal footstool. The Commissioner-General read a message of greeting and congratulation from the King. The Sultan was then carried to the palace, where he sat in state, and his consort, Raja Isteri, was crowned by the wife of the Chief Minister.

This evening a state banquet was held in the palace, and on the padang thousands are making merry. Bonfires are flaring on the hills, and on the river brightly lit boats are being paddled in procession.

Sir C. W. Abell
Mr. Neale

H 531

Daily Telegraph

1 JUN 1951

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Ruler Crowned.—Sultan Omar Ali Saifudin, 36, was crowned 28th ruler of Brunei State, the smallest in British North Borneo.

Omar Ali, the British king of oil

SINGAPORE, Thursday.

A NEW British oil king was crowned today while his court musicians beat drums wildly and wailed through pipes.

Omar Ali Saifudin (36) became the new Sultan of Brunei State, the largest producing oilfield in the Commonwealth and the home of head-hunting Dyaks.

His £3,500 gold crown was new—in keeping with Brunei tradition which derives from the time when one claimant to the throne fired his crown from a cannon so no one else could wear it.

Umbrella men

Ahead stood 40 flag bearers in scarlet, 48 sword and spear-men, 40 umbrella bearers and the bearer of the Great Shield.

Then all moved off to a State banquet.

Brunei (pop. 41,000) is an independent, British-protected State on the north-west coast of the island of Borneo, sandwiched between Sarawak and North Borneo.—Reuter.

3 JUN 1958

28th Sultan of Brunei Crowned Amid 16th Century Pageantry

By the Associated Press

SINGAPORE, May 31.-- Omar Ali was crowned 28th Sultan of Brunei today amid vivid color and pageantry.

Large crowds poured into the capital of the tiny state of Brunei, on the island of Borneo, for the ceremony.

They came by road, jungle track, launch and canoe. The spectators included Malays, Dyaks, Muruts, Kedayans, Chinese and Europeans.

The 36-year-old Sultan, who succeeds his elder brother who died during the year, was carried on a gilt litter by 24 picked Malay men.

It was a glittering show that recalled days of the 16th century when Brunei was Borneo's mightiest state and ruled all the mainland as well as neighboring islands. In those days, war fleets of Brunei's

Capt. Nakoda Ragam sailed to Java and Malacca and even laid siege to Manila.

Ahead of the Sultan's litter marched 40 flagmen, all in scarlet, then 48 sword and spearmen, and 40 umbrella bearers.

The great Shield of Rule was carried immediately in front of the litter, which itself bore four other people with the Sultan, including the bearers of the Yellow Umbrella and the royal betel nut.

All Brunei—a town built over water—was ablaze with color for the celebration. Flags and banners covered the waterfront and the main street, which was lined with huge triumphal arches.

The British Governors of North Borneo and Sarawak, Sir Ralph Hone and A. F. Abell, and Commissioner General Malcolm MacDonald, each with a guard of honor, attend-

ed the ceremony, which took place in a new building.

The coronation comes at a time when Brunei is enjoying prosperity that springs mainly from the British Commonwealth's greatest oil center which yields most of the state's revenue.

Lines of Boy Scouts flanked the procession route. The Golden Hand and Dragon Kris were carried in the procession and the Golden Cat and Sword was displayed behind the throne.

Swordsmen and a ten-foot trident guarded the entrance to the coronation hall. Music of court musicians, played on drums and pipes, heralded the actual coronation.

The Prime Minister took the gold crown and repeated the proclamation seven times. A 21-gun salute boomed from brass cannon as the crown was placed on the Sultan's head.

The crown is a new one by tradition because an ancient dispute was once settled when a claimant fired the former crown out of a cannon, saying no one else but he could wear it.

The new crown is valued at \$3,500.

Fin G. Whiteley

H 531

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SIR G. WHITELEY (H.)

MT

CORONATION

SINGAPORE MAY 31 REUTER - SULTAN OMAR ALI SAIFUDIN, 36,
BROTHER OF THE LATE RULER, WAS TODAY CROWNED 28TH RULER OF
BRUNEI STATE'S 41,000 INHABITANTS.

BRUNEI STATE, THE SMALLEST IN BRITISH NORTH BORNEO,
HAS THE LARGEST PRODUCING OILFIELDS IN THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH.
REUTER..1056

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for file.

G.C.W.

31/5

With the Compliments

of the

British Resident

Brunei

copy



Celebration of the Coronation of
His Highness Omar Ali Saifuddin
Washa'Dul Khairi Waddin ibni Almerhum
Pang di Pertuan Sultan Mohamed Jemal-ul-Alam
Sultan of Brunei.

29th May, 1951

to

1st June, 1951.

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TUESDAY, 29th MAY, 1951.

- 10.30 a.m. His Highness the Sultan will present Coronation Medals in the Lapau.

WEDNESDAY, 30th MAY, 1951.

- 8.30 a.m.—11 a.m. State Agricultural Show.
- 7.00 p.m. Illumination and flood-lighting of Istana Dar-ul-Hana, Government Buildings, Padang, Town and River Kampong.
- 7.30 p.m. Public Entertainments on Padang :—
(1) Ronggeng
(2) Main Silat
(3) Chinese Wayang
(4) Bangsawan
- 7.45 p.m. Buffet Supper Party at the Residency.

THURSDAY, 31st MAY, 1951.

- 9.00 a.m. Invited guests to be in their seats in the Lapau.
- 9.05 a.m. His Excellency the Governor of North Borneo arrives at the Lapau and is received by a Guard of Honour.
- 9.10 a.m. His Excellency the High Commissioner arrives at the Lapau and is received by a Guard of Honour.
- 9.15 a.m. His Excellency the Commissioner-General arrives at the Lapau and is received by a Guard of Honour.
- 9.20 a.m. His Highness the Sultan leaves the Istana Dar-ul-Hana by car and is met at the New Hospital by the Royal Litter in which he will be carried to the Lapau.
- On arrival at the Lapau His Highness will inspect a Guard of Honour and afterwards proceed to the Throne.
- 9.45 a.m. **His Highness the Sultan will be proclaimed Yang di Pertuan and will be crowned by Yang Teramat Mulia Duli Pengiran Bendahara.**

A royal salute of 21 guns will be fired. Speeches of congratulation will be made by Their Excellencies the Commissioner-General, the High Commissioner and the Governor of North Borneo.

The proceedings will terminate with the reading of a Prayer by the Pehin Dato Imam.

- 10.45 a.m. His Highness the Sultan will leave the Lapau by car and proceed to the Istana.

Invited guests will follow to witness the Bersanding Ceremony of His Highness the Sultan and Her Highness the Raja Isteri at the Istana.

- 11.45 a.m. Their Highnesses the Sultan and the Raja Isteri will leave the Istana by car for a Procession round the Town and will subsequently return to the Istana.

Invited guests will *not* take part in this Procession.

- 2.00 p.m. Regatta on Brunei River.

- 7.00 p.m. Illuminations. Bonfires on surrounding hills. Public entertainments as on previous nights.

- 7.30 p.m. **STATE BANQUET AT THE ISTANA DAR-UL-HANA.**

- 10.00 p.m. Procession of illuminated boats on the river. Fireworks.

(FREE MEALS FOR THE NEEDY WILL BE PROVIDED FROM 12—1 P.M. AND FROM 5—6 P.M. ON THE NEW RECLAMATION).

FRIDAY, 1st JUNE, 1951.

- 12.15 p.m. Thanksgiving Service at Mosque for Muslim Community only.

- 2.30—6 p.m.

Land sports on Town Padang and Final of School Physical Training Competition.

- 7.00 p.m.

Illuminations and public entertainments as on previous nights.

- 7.30 p.m.

Dinner at Istana Dar-ul-Hana.

SAVING.

High Commissioner for Brunei

From the ~~Governor of Sarawak~~

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date.....17th May 1951..

No.48.....Saving.

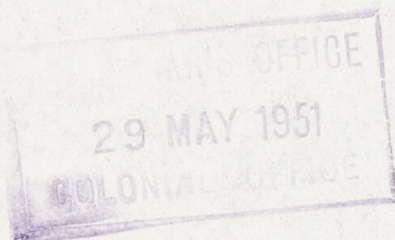
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Your confidential telegram 17

I will read your message during ^{at} ceremony.



Shw

Sultan of Brunei, Penigiran Omar Ali Saifudin: Coronation Speeches. 1951. MS Records of the British Colonial Office CO 943/2/13. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). State Papers Online Colonial, link.gale.com/apps/doc/HCGESU530787330/SPOC?u=omni&sid=bookmark-SPOC&pg=1. Accessed 21 Dec. 2024.